
Introduced Version

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by: Borders

A RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign to the Natural Resources Study Committee the subject of extraction and severance of minerals in Indiana.

Whereas, Indiana enjoys a rich history of natural resources such as coal, aggregate, gypsum, peat, methane, petroleum, oil, and natural gas;

Whereas, There has been an increased volume of extraction and severance of Indiana natural resources;

Whereas, 38 states have some extraction and severance tax in law, including Indiana, which enacted a petroleum severance tax in 1947;

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Whereas, Indiana has approximately 57 billion tons of unmined coal, of which nearly 17 billion tons is recoverable using current technology;

Whereas, Based on current production rates, Indiana's 17 billion tons of available coal could last more than 500 years;

Whereas, Every state with mineral wealth, except Pennsylvania, imposes a severance tax to compensate residents for the removal of nonrenewable resources;

Whereas, The severance tax is an important source of state and local revenue to support services such as education, health care, environmental protection, early childhood education, and support for persons with disabilities;

Whereas, Each natural gas well drilled requires 800 to 2,000 heavy truck trips to transport heavy drilling rigs and water tankers to the site;

Whereas, This increased traffic requires frequent road reconstruction and bridge repair;

Whereas, Extraction industries are historically nomadic and boom-like, imposing social costs on rural communities, including increased demand for public safety services and rapidly rising housing costs; and

Whereas, The standing committee responsible for natural resource policy requires a clear and comprehensive understanding of the regulatory process and the challenges faced by Indiana counties and their constituents: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to assign to the
- 2 Natural Resources Study Committee the subject of extraction and
- 3 severance of minerals in Indiana.

